Stair riser - Stair riser

Object: Stair riser

Place of origin: Pakistan (The V&A Register states that this object is 'said to have come from Buner, near Swat'. It is generally believed now that this piece along with a group of other stair risers and associated architectural revetment fragments came from the Peshawar Valley, Pakistan, in what was formerly the British-controlled Yusufzai District of the North-West Frontier Province (see Errington, 1987, who cites that the Cleveland Museum of Art refers in the <u>Bulletin of the Cleveland Museum of Art</u>, December 1930, to the 'Buner reliefs' in their collection as coming from a find-place 'near the Buner border in the Peshawar district of the North-West Frontier Province'. made)

Date: late 1st century-2nd century (made)

Artist/Maker: Unknown

Materials and Techniques: Schist

Credit Line: Given by Prof. Benjamin Rowland

Museum number: IS.3-1971

Gallery location: South-East Asia, Room 47a, case 8

Descriptive line

Stair Riser with Bacchanalian Scene, schist, 1st-2nd century AD, Peshawar Valley

Dimensions

Depth: 5.2 cm, Height: 16.5 cm, Width: 46.5 cm

Museum number

IS.3-1971

Object history note

Received from Prof. B. Rowland, Cambridge, Mass. USA.

Historical significance: Formerly B. Rowland collection

Historical context note

This relief depicts six figures dressed in Roman style, some holding drinking vessels and others holding plantain leaves (possibly for use as fans) The subject may represent the presentation of the future Buddha, Prince Siddhartha, to his bride or simply be a festive scene. The figures are flanked by two columns with Corinthian-style capitals. The tenons used to secure this relief are visible on the upper edge. It is reportedly from a site in the Buner region of the Swat valley.

URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O25041/stair-riser-stair-riser-unknown/